(b) whether it is a fact that there are only four formulators of the bulk drug Glybenclamide and of these two multinational companies account for 98% of the sales;

(c) if so, the names of the major formulators;

(d) whether it is also a fact that out of the two major formulators one accounts for a sale of over 80% and the other accounts for a sale of about 18% and

(e) if so, on what basis this drug has been price decontrolled?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to the extent information is available the only unit in the organised sector which is reporting production of Glybenclamide is M/s. Hoechst (India) Limited. They have produced following quantities of Glybenclamide during the last three years:

Year	*Production (in Tons.)*
1985-86	0.86
1986-87	1.30
1987-88	2.05

(b), (c) and (d) In the organised sector following four companies are manufacturing Glybenclamide formulations:—

1. M/s. Dey's Medical Stores (Mfg.) Ltd.
2. M/s. Hoechst (India) Ltd.
3. M/s. Boehringer-Knoll Ltd.
4. M/s. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

Sales turn-over of formulations is not monitored by this Ministry.

(e) This drug has been price decontrolled on the recommendation of Kelkar Committee.

Price Control on Folic Acid

683. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that any increase in price of Folic Acid was not found justified under DPCO, 1979 and on the contrary cost base of IDPL was found less than the notified price of Rs. 2631.62 per kg.

(b) if so, what are basis on which IDPL increased the price to Rs. 3241.04 per Kg. now and what are the reasons for such a steep increase in the price;

(c) whether there is any proposal to scrutinize it by BICP;

(d) whether it is also a fact that IDPL is the only producer of Folic Acid in the country;

(e) if so, the basis on which this drug has been price decontrolled; and

(f) what was the production of this drug during the last three years, yearwise and what was the quantity imported and its import price during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). Folic Acid is a price decontrolled bulk drug under DPCO 1987. As per the provisions of DPCO 1987, manufacturers of decontrolled drugs are free to revise the prices. However, Govt. is keeping a watch and intervene, wherever found necessary.

(d) IDPL is the only producer in organised sector.

(e) Folic Acid has been decontrolled as per recommendations of Kelkar Committee.

(f) Imports of drugs are not monitored. The required details to the extent available are as given below.

Name of the bulk drug manufacturing	A/c Unit.	Production		
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
FOLIC ACID IDPL.	T	7.65	6.65	7.55